

Wright County Soil & Water Conservation District

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“Farming, conserving and preserving our resources work hand in hand”

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Department of Natural Resources

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The Wright News

FALL 2010



Wright County Soil and Water Conservation District would like to take this opportunity to welcome our newest board member, Kelley Calton. Kelley has been serving as representative of the Boone, Union and Elk Creek Townships since he was elected in April.

Kelley and his wife Abigail (Abby) have three children; Jarrett, Carly and Jeffrey. While Kelley is busy working on the family dairy farm, with his dad Mike, Abby can be found at the Webster County Farm Service Agency where she is a Farm Loan Technician. After graduating from College of the Ozarks in 1997 with a degree in general agriculture, Kelley worked briefly for Tyson Foods before going to work at Hiland Dairy. He was with Hiland Dairy for eleven years then made the decision to work full time on the farm.

The Calton’s farm was established in 1857 by Kelley’s great-great-great grandfather Noel. Kelley is proud to tell you he is the sixth generation on this farm. Today the farm is 480 acres with around 100 dairy cows. The herd being milked now was built up by Mike after his father sold most of the dairy cows and went into hog production. The current milk barn was built in 1979 by Mike. A sign, which was painted by Kelley’s uncle and hangs on the front of the barn, announces “Calton Dairy”. Keeping in the multi-generational theme, this barn stands just a short distance from the milk barn used by Kelley’s great grandfather.

Everybody gets to pitch in and help feed baby heifers with the bulls being sold to area residents. On the farm there is always something to be done but time is taken out to enjoy Jarrett’s baseball games. In addition to enjoying the games, Kelley looks forward to the cooler weather brought by the fall of the year as this signals the start of hunting season.



With hard work and determination Kelley and Abby are hopeful that one day their children will be proud to say they are the seventh generation on the Calton farm.

We appreciate Kelley’s eagerness to assist Wright county landowner’s conservation needs!

Cost-Share Payments to Landowners Total \$319,092

Our 2010 fiscal year began on July 1, 2009 and ended June 30, 2010. During that time we provided cost-share payments to Wright County landowners in the amount of \$319,092. This amount does not include additional funding which is provided in two special project watersheds in the county.

Landowners utilizing our DSL-1 Establishing permanent grass or grass/legume, DSL-2 Introduce legumes into permanent grass or DSP-2 Introduce legumes into permanent grass with a no-till drill practices treated 333 acres accounting for \$39,427 of our cost-share funding.

After completion of a grazing school landowners are eligible to receive cost-share on water development, water distribution, fencing, lime and legume seeding to improve the efficiency of their pastures. The DSP-3 Planned Grazing System practices accounted for \$174,316 of our cost-share funding.

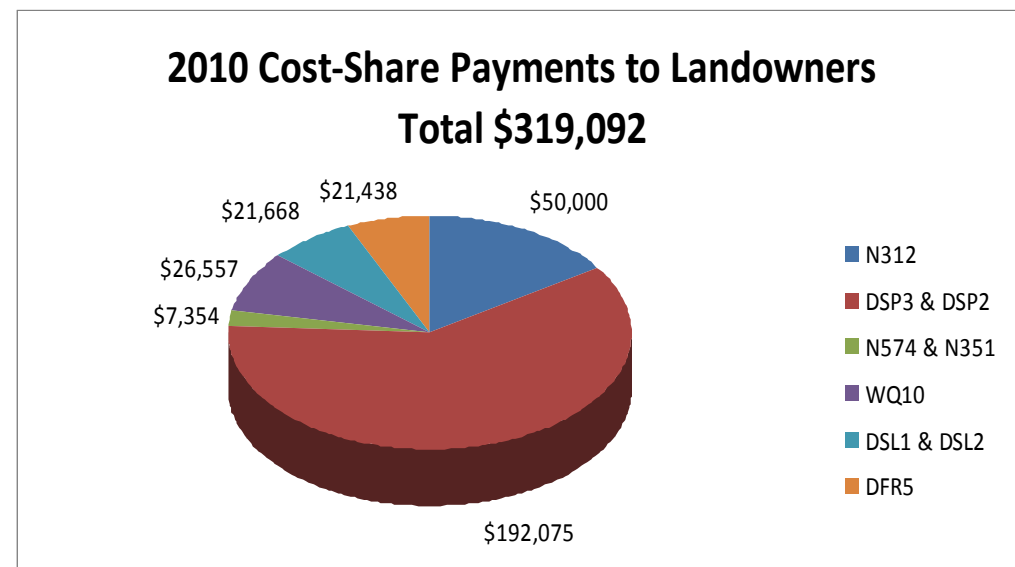
The DFR-5 Fencing woodland to exclude livestock practice accounted for \$21,438 of our cost-share funding treating 197 acres of woodland.

The N574 Spring Development and N351 Well Decommissioning practices are used to address water quality issues. During fiscal year 2010 \$7,354 represents the decommissioning of 3 abandoned wells and development of 4 springs which can now be used to water livestock.

The construction of one N312 Dairy Waste Management System utilized the \$50,000 of available cost-share funding. The construction of these systems provide proper handling of waste for a dairy.

In addition to the above mentioned practices which address water quality the WQ10 Stream Protection practice also addresses water quality issues by fencing livestock out of a stream. This practice includes an incentive payment and cost-share for fence, water source (if necessary), pipeline and tank. In fiscal year 2010 landowners were provided \$26,557 in cost-share funding for this practice.

Our funding is provided through the 1/10th of 1% Parks and Soils Sales Tax.



You're Invited to a Fall Field Day

Come and join us at Larry and Jaci Ferguson's farm on November 4th at 2 p.m.

Our topic for the afternoon will be

MONEY SAVINGS FOUND IN STOCKPILED FESCUE

Our office has had the opportunity to work with a number of landowners here in the Ozarks who have successfully strip grazed stockpiled fescue. Landowners have all been truly amazed how long the pastures have lasted and how well the cattle have performed on the stockpiled fescue. If you would like tips on how stockpiling fescue can help you cut your winter feeding bill, plan to attend this tour.

Contact the SWCD office at 417-741-6195 ext. 4, if you have questions.

From Hartville take 5 Hwy south out of town approximately 6 miles to AB Hwy. Travel AB Hwy approximately 2 miles until it turns into gravel becoming Clouse Rd. Ferguson's farm is about 1 mile on Clouse Rd on the left; they have a pipe fence entrance.

From Mansfield take 5 Hwy north out of town approximately 5 miles to AB Hwy. Travel AB Hwy approximately 2 miles until it turns into gravel becoming Clouse Rd. Ferguson's farm is about 1 mile on Clouse Rd on the left; they have a pipe fence entrance.